



Jenny Portillo <jenny.m.portillo@lacity.org>

Re: Fwd:

1 message

Keith Banks <keith.banks@lacity.org>

Mon, Jan 8, 2018 at 2:04 PM

To: Lisa Hansen <lisa.hansen@lacity.org>, Joseph Flynn <jake.flynn@lacity.org>

Cc: Richard Young <richard.x.young@lacity.org>

Bcc: jenny.m.portillo@lacity.org

Hello Jake,

There are people living under tents at the Winnetka and Ventura underpass. And the community of Woodland Hills does not appreciate it at all. They are complaining on fb and trying to galvanize the community to inundate our office with phone calls regarding it. Jenny, Tim and I are on top of it. We are aware of the problem.

However because of the rain, exceptions have to be made regarding enforcement of LAMC 56.11. Because it is raining and temperatures are below a certain degree, The HOPE team and Bureau of Sanitation Sanitation are prohibited from enforcing the clean up and encampment removal process from the Winnetka and Ventura underpass, despite it being scheduled for today, January 8th.

Please post these photos of Keith Banks and our dedicated intern Mr. James St. John performing a general clean up of what was allowable under the law in the vicinity of the area originally scheduled to be cleaned. It is important that our constituents know that Councilmember Blumenfield committed is committed to his community and is doing everything allowable within the law to maintain a clean, safe and secure community for all constituents to reside peacefully in. I'm working with Mr. Richard Young in Sanitation to find another date to replace the delayed clean up date. Richard is cc'd here.

Richard we need another date H.E. date asap for the location at [REDACTED] Please provide us one so constituents can be contacted.

Thank you,

Keith Banks
Winnetka Field Deputy
Office of Councilmember Bob Blumenfield
Los Angeles City Council, Third District
19040 Vanowen Street, Reseda, CA 91335
818.774.4330 Office | 818.756.9179 Fax | blumenfield.lacity.org
Serving the San Fernando Valley Communities of Canoga Park, Reseda, Tarzana, Winnetka, and Woodland Hills.

On Mon, Jan 8, 2018 at 7:39 AM, Lisa Hansen <lisa.hansen@lacity.org> wrote:

Thank you Keith.

I took Dinse off this email and added Jake.

I know that you are doing everything humanly possible to handle the homeless crisis and it is so heart wrenching. There are people on facebook who only want to gripe and complain and will never acknowledge what our office/the city/LAPD does because it doesn't fit their world view.

Let's talk about how to respond to the post with facts for the few people who understand the challenge and are receptive to hearing our response.

You're a gem, Keith, and I'm proud to work with you.

Lisa

Lisa Hansen

Chief of Staff
Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

Serving the San Fernando Valley Communities of Canoga Park, Reseda, Tarzana, Winnetka, and Woodland Hills.

On Jan 8, 2018, at 12:58 AM, Keith Banks <keith.banks@lacity.org> wrote:

Why do these folks think they don't hear from us? What can we do to let them know we care...

<Image-1.jpg>

It is now Sunday, almost 12 o'clock at night. But when I read that email facebook post from Grace Kilzi's, I could not help but to drive over to Winnetka and Ventura to see what it is that she is talking about. This is what I found. First of all this location has been reported to sanitation for clean up tomorrow, January 8th. It's going to be cleaned. Richard Young and the whole entire clean streets team is going over there to clean the location. Grace KNOWS this. I have TOLD her this. I communicate with her every single time she contacts me. I talk to her and explain to her what is happening.

I have explained to her that there is a process that must be followed. I'm polite to her. I have been extremely responsive and communicative with her about everything she has brought to my attention. The reason I have requested no oversized parking of vehicles between Mason and Winnetka by Pierce College is because she has written to me every single day complaining about RV's and trucks parked there. And I understood her complaint and responded by having a resolution written banning oversized vehicles parked on Victory between Mason and Winnetka between certain hours. The signs are being printed now.

Grace wants the police to arrest each and every person that looks homeless whose pushing a shopping cart down the sidewalk. That's what she wants. If she sees a person sitting on the sidewalk that looks like they don't have a place to live, she wants them arrested and put in jail. That is her solution and her idea of how to rid the community of homeless people.

Tonight I sat and talked with the gentleman in the photo. His name is [REDACTED]. He has been homeless and an alcoholic for 20 years. I talked to him for an hour about how I can help him get off the street. At first he was hostile. But when he saw I was trying to help him, he eventually warmed up and began to talk to me about his life. The guy who was with him was very hostile however and stormed off. But Mark was receptive and knows Officer Dinse. He told me that Officer Dinse was the only officer who treated him with respect and treated him like a decent human being.

I told Mark about the homeless connect day that's coming up and begged him to please attend. I even told him I would try and make arraignments to transport him there if he can't get there on his own. He needs ID, he needs social security, he needs a phone and he needs medical care because he's suffering from what appeared to be an ugly form of skin cancer. I will call LAHSA tomorrow morning and get Patrick Justice to provide him outreach services while sanitation is there. He needs medicare or medicaid and homeless connect day can help provide that.

The Christmas tree is on Caltrans property so I will have to contact them in the morning to try and get those people removed. As soon as they move from Caltrans they are going to be relocated back to city property however. The police can cite them with a ticket for ignoring the no loitering signs that are now underneath the underpasses. But they won't make an arrest. In fact Andrew told me that he KNEW Sanitation was coming tomorrow and that he was simply going to hide on the freeway side which is state property until the city was done cleaning and then come back to the underpass once they left. I told him it would be better if we could find him a home off the streets. It's just a never ending game of back and forth. But we are doing everything we can within the limits of the law to try and help people and manage this homeless crisis. I just wish the people understood that.

Thank you,

Keith Banks
Winnetka Field Deputy
Office of Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Keith Banks** [REDACTED]
Date: Sun, Jan 7, 2018 at 10:50 PM
Subject:
To: keith.banks@lacity.org

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3 attachments



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